



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE  
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## Pennsylvania Farmers Expect to Plant Record-High Soybean Acreage Again

HARRISBURG, PA --- For the fifth year in a row, Pennsylvania growers are raising the bar on soybean acreage. Growers across the State intend to plant an estimated record 590 thousand acres of soybeans in 2016, up 2 percent from the previous record set in 2015, according to the Prospective Plantings report released on March 31 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

The Prospective Plantings report provides the first official, survey based estimates of U.S. farmers' 2016 planting intentions, according to King Whetstone, Director of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Northeastern Regional Field Office. NASS acreage estimates are based on surveys conducted during the first two weeks of March from a sample of more than 83,000 farm operators across the United States.

Other Pennsylvania's 2016 key findings in the report are:

- **Corn** planted area for all purposes is estimated at 1.40 million acres, up 4 percent from last year.
- **Barley** planted area is estimated at 55 thousand acres, unchanged from last year.
- **Oat** planted area is estimated at 85 thousand acres, down 11 percent from last year.
- **Winter Wheat** area planted is estimated at 190 thousand acres, down 3 percent from last year.
- **Hay** area harvested is estimated at 1.21 million acres, down 6 percent from last year.
- **Tobacco** harvested area is estimated at 7,000 acres, down 11 percent from last year.

The complete Prospective Plantings report and all other NASS reports are available online at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

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